

Public Information Office

February 20, 2004

Walking Safely With Law Enforcement

The Columbus Division of Police, Mayor Michael Coleman and the Columbus Health Department wish to announce funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Agency. This funding is important in that it will allow for implementation of a public awareness and enforcement program regarding pedestrian traffic laws.

The kick-off will be **Friday, February 20 at 10:30 am at the Northeast corner of Kenmore and Cleveland at the new Linden Public Library.**

The Downtown and Linden areas have had high rates of pedestrian hospitalizations compared to other areas in Franklin County. According to a report of the Central Ohio Trauma System the county rate is eight hospitalizations/100,000 people and the downtown and Linden rates are 24 and 19/100,000 people respectively.

The grant will enable these departments to implement community awareness activities and to better enforce traffic laws related to pedestrian safety. Police officers will be starting increased enforcement February 20th at the corner of Nationwide Blvd. and Front St. Educating drivers will be the initial strategy. Ticketing is the next step. The intersections in the Linden area will be announced in the future.

For further information, Contact:

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